

# The Hongkong Telegraph.

ESTABLISHED 1881.

NEW SERIES No. 184.

THURSDAY, APRIL 13, 1899.

四拜禮

號三十月四英港香

THE UNITED ASBESTOS  
ORIENTAL AGENCY  
Agents for the  
UNITED ASBESTOS COMPANY, LTD., LONDON  
DOUDWELL & CO., LIMITED  
General Agents

THIRTY DOLLARS  
PER ANNUM.

## Banks.

THE YOKOHAMA SPECIE BANK, LIMITED.  
ESTABLISHED 1886.

SUBSCRIBED CAPITAL.....\$10,000,000  
PAID-UP CAPITAL.....10,000,000  
RESERVE FUND.....7,300,000

Head Office—YOKOHAMA.

Branches and Agents—  
NEW YORK, LYONS,  
LONDON, SAN FRANCISCO, HONGKONG,  
BOMBAY, SHANGHAI,  
LONDON BANKERS.

THE LONDON JOINT STOCK BANK, LTD.  
PARKS' BANK, LTD.

THE UNION BANK OF LONDON, LTD.  
HONGKONG AGENCY—INTEREST ALLOWED  
On Current Account at the rate of 2 per cent  
per Annum on the Daily Balance.

On fixed deposits for 12 months at 5 per cent.  
" 6 " 4 "  
" 3 " 3 "  
" 3 " 3 "

S. CHOI, Agent,  
Hongkong, 13th April, 1899.

THE NATIONAL BANK OF CHINA,  
LIMITED.

Authorised Capital.....\$10,000,000  
Paid up Capital.....\$2,545,744

HEAD OFFICE: HONGKONG.

Board of Directors—  
E. BUNNIE, Esq., D. GILLES, Esq.,  
CHAN KEE, Esq., KWANH OF CHUEN, Esq.,  
CHOW TUNG SHANG, Esq., J. T. LAUTS, Esq.,  
Chief Manager, GEO. W. F. PLAYFAIR.

Interest for 12 months Fixed.....  
Hongkong, 23rd March, 1899.

HONGKONG AND SHANGHAI  
BANKING CORPORATION.  
PAID-UP CAPITAL.....\$10,000,000  
RESERVE FUND.....\$10,000,000  
RESERVE LIABILITY OF PROPRIETORS.....\$10,000,000

CO. OF DIRECTORS—  
R. M. GRAY, Esq., Chairman,  
N. A. STELLS, Esq., Deputy Chairman,  
The Hon. J. J. Bell-Davies,  
E. G. GALT, Esq., A. McCORMICK, Esq.,  
E. SHELLIM, Esq., A. J. Raymond, Esq.,  
A. HAMP, Esq., P. SADLER, Esq.,  
R. H. HILL, Esq., J. R. SHEWAN, Esq.

Chief Manager—  
T. JACKSON, Esq.,  
Manager—  
Shanghai, J. P. WADE, CARDEN, G. G.,  
LONDON & CHINA'S CHIEF AND COURTYARD  
BANKING COMPANY, LIMITED.

HONGKONG—INTEREST ALLOWED  
On Current Account at the rate of 2 per cent  
per Annum on the daily balance.

ON FIXED DEPOSITS—  
For 3 months, 2 1/2 per cent per Annum.  
For 6 months, 3 per cent per Annum.  
For 12 months, 4 per cent per Annum.

T. JACKSON,  
Chief Manager,  
Hongkong, 13th April, 1899.

HONGKONG SAVINGS BANK.

The Business of the above Bank is conducted  
by the HONGKONG AND SHANGHAI  
BANKING CORPORATION. Rules may be  
obtained on application.

INTEREST on deposits is allowed at 3 1/2 PER  
CENT, per annum.

Depositors may transfer at their option  
balances of \$50 or more to the HONGKONG  
AND SHANGHAI BANK, to be placed on FIXED  
DEPOSIT at 4 PER CENT, per annum.

For the HONGKONG AND SHANGHAI  
BANKING CORPORATION—  
T. JACKSON,  
Chief Manager,  
Hongkong, 1st August, 1893.

THE CHARTERED BANK OF INDIA,  
AUSTRALIA AND CHINA.

INCORPORATED BY ROYAL CHARTER, 1855.

HEAD OFFICE: LONDON.

CAPITAL PAID UP.....\$800,000  
RESERVE LIABILITY OF SHARE  
HOLDERS.....\$800,000  
RESERVE FUND.....\$450,000

INTEREST ALLOWED on CURRENT  
ACCOUNT at the rate of 2 per cent, per  
annum on the Daily Balances.

On Fixed Deposits for 12 months—4 per cent.

" 6 " 3 "

" 3 " 2 "

" 2 " 1 "

" 1 " 0 "

T. H. WHITEHEAD,  
Manager, Hongkong,  
Hongkong, 25th May, 1898.

IMPERIAL BANK OF CHINA.

ESTABLISHED BY IMPERIAL DECREE  
OF THE 12TH NOVEMBER, 1896.

Shanghai Taels

SUBSCRIBED CAPITAL.....5,000,000

PAID-UP CAPITAL.....2,500,000

Head Office—SHANGHAI.

Branches and Agents—  
CANTON, HANKOW,  
CHEFOO, PEKING,  
CHINKIANG, SWATOW,  
FOOCHOW, TIENTSIN.

THE Bank purchases and receives, for col-  
lection Bills of Exchange drawn on  
the above places, and Sells Drafts and Telegraphic  
Transfers Payable at its Branches and Agen-  
cies.

HONGKONG BRANCH.

Advances made on approved securities.

Bills discounted.

INTEREST ALLOWED ON DEPOSITS—  
3 1/2 per Annum Fixed Deposits for 3 months.

6 " 4 "

5 " 3 "

4 " 2 "

3 " 1 "

E. W. RUTTER,  
Acting Manager,  
Hongkong, 13th October, 1898.

## Intimations.

PENINSULAR AND ORIENTAL STEAM  
NAVIGATION COMPANY.

FOR MEMBERS CAPTAINS & CO-SAIL REMARKS  
SHANGHAI, *Conqueror*, C. N. Tillard, About 14th April, Freight or Passage  
LONDON, &c., *Boat*, S. Barham, Noon, 13th April, Freight or Passage  
JAPAN, &c., *Rohita*, S. G. Lockyer, N. R. Noon, 10th April, Freight or Passage  
LONDON, *Conqueror*, D. C. Gregor, R. N. R. About 16th April, Freight or Passage  
Passing through the Inland Sea. See Special Advertisement.

For Further Particulars apply to

H. A. RITCHIE, Superintendent.

Hongkong, 13th April, 1899.

JUBILEE  
PILSENER BEER  
PER CASE OF 1 DOZ. QUARTS  
OR  
8 DOZ. PINTS.....\$13.00

SOLE AGENTS—  
H. PRICE & CO., QUEENS ROAD.

THE CLUB HOTEL,  
LIMITED.

A FIRST-CLASS HOTEL, Centrally situated, well furnished and  
supplied with excellent Cuisine and Good Wines.

Special attention paid to the Comfort of Visitors.

E. V. SIOEN, Manager.

Yokohama, 1st October, 1897.

Mail Steamers.

Special attention paid to the Comfort of Visitors.

E. V. SIOEN, Manager.

Yokohama, 1st October, 1897.

TRY THE

CURRY

AT THE HONGKONG HOTEL.

## GINS.

NOLLE'S GENEVA square bottles.....A. V. H. square bottles.....

PLAYMOUTH GIN (Gates & Co.)

BOODR'S OLD TOM finest quality.

BOODR'S OLD TOM London bottled.

JAS. GOUTT & CO. SUPERIOR OLD TOM.

DA. S. UNSWELL LTD.

NICHOLSON'S DRY GIN.

CALDBECK, MACGREGOR & CO.,  
HYDE AND SPIRIT MERCHANTS.

Agencies in all the principal ports of China, Japan, Borneo and the Philippines.

Hongkong, 8th April, 1899.

TRY THE S.S. "SHANGHAI".

NEW STOCK OF LADIES

TRIMMED & UNTRIMMED MILLINERY.

NEW FLOWERS, FEATHERS, LACES, RIBBONS, &c. &c.

Hongkong, 16th March, 1899.

TRY THE S.S. "SHANGHAI".

NEW STOCK OF LADIES

TRIMMED & UNTRIMMED MILLINERY.

NEW FLOWERS, FEATHERS, LACES, RIBBONS, &c. &c.

Hongkong, 16th March, 1899.

## Intimations.

UNITED ASBESTOS ORIENTAL  
AGENCY, LIMITED.

SOLE AGENTS IN  
HONGKONG, CHINA, JAPAN, AND THE STRAITS SETTLEMENTS.

FOR THE

UNITED ASBESTOS CO., LTD., LONDON,  
CONTRACTORS TO H.M. GOVERNMENT.

MANUFACTURERS OF THE  
BEST QUALITIES OF ASBESTOS GOODS AND PACKINGS.

HYDRAULIC AND SELF LUBRICATING PUMP PACKINGS, of all kinds.

" VICTOR " METALLIC BOILER-JOINTS.

ASBESTOS SALAMANDER BOILER COVERING COMPOSITION, of the best qualities.

ESTIMATES given for every DESCRIPTION of WORK.

SUPERINTENDENT, THOS. SKINNER

DOUDWELL & CO., LIMITED, General Agents.

PEAK HOTEL

AND

CRAIGIEBURN.

THE PEAK HOTEL is situated at Victoria Gap, adjoining the Tramway terminus,  
1,350 feet above sea level.

CRAIGIEBURN is situated at 4100 feet above sea level, five minutes walk from the PEAK

HOTEL.

The healthy location, variety of beautiful scenery. Cool southerly breezes in summer

with perfect protection against the North East winds in winter.

Well appointed rooms, attentive service and excellent cuisine.

GEO. J. CASANOVA,  
Manager.

CRAIGIEBURN, 27th March, 1899.

FORM OF APPLICATION.

THE HONGKONG HOTEL COMPANY, LIMITED.

Issue of 3,121 Shares of \$50 each, fully paid

up.

The Directors are prepared to receive

offers for the above Shares, which

remain unissued.

Applicants should state the price per share, including premium, they are willing to pay, but no shares will be allotted for less than Seventy-five Dollars (\$75.00) per share.

Preference will be given in the allotment to those persons who on the 15th April, 1899,

are registered as Shareholders.

The Directors do not bind themselves to accept the highest or any offer.

Forms of Application (as under) can be obtained at the Company's Office or from the HONGKONG AND SHANGHAI BANKING CORPORATION.

The applications must be sent to the Undersigned not later than 5 o'clock P.M. on SATURDAY, the 15th April, 1899.

C. MOONEY,

Secretary.

Hongkong, 27th March, 1899.

FORM OF APPLICATION.

THE HONGKONG HOTEL COMPANY, LIMITED.

Issue of 3,121 Shares of \$50 each, fully paid

up.

To the Directors of

THE HONGKONG HOTEL COMPANY, LIMITED.

In pursuance of and upon the terms mentioned in the Notice dated 27th

# THE HONGKONG TELEGRAPH, THURSDAY, APRIL 13, 1899.

## To-day's Advertisement.

THEATRE ROYAL,  
MESSRS. DALLAS AND MUSGRAVE'S  
THEATRICAL SEASON.

TO-NIGHT! TO-NIGHT!  
LAST 2 NIGHTS OF  
MARK MELFORD'S  
FUNNIEST OF ALL FUNNY FARCICAL  
COMEDIES,

"TURNED UP,"

SATURDAY, April 13th,  
Grand Production of  
CHARLES READE'S WORLD RENOWNED  
DRAMA.

"IT'S NEVER TOO LATE TO MEND."

PRICES: \$3, \$2 and \$1.  
Soldiers and Sailors (in uniform) half-price to  
back seats only.

Box Plan at the ROBINSON PIANO CO.

Notice.—A special train will run a quarter of  
an hour after fall of curtain every evening.

W. H. BROWN,  
Business Manager.

Hongkong, 13th April, 1899.

FRENCH COMIC OPERA COMPANY.

3 NIGHTS 3

THURSDAY, FRIDAY AND SATURDAY.  
ST. ANDREW'S HALL, CITY HALL.

TO-NIGHT,  
(THURSDAY), 13th April, 1899.

GRAND CONCERT  
A LA PARISIENNE  
will be given at the above Hall at 9 P.M., by  
the following Artists.

Miss G. VASTI, Miss J. LORIG,  
1st Chanteuse, Comique

M. C. DARON,  
Comique

Miss M. SAVART, Mr. E. DANENBERG,  
Chanteuse à la dictation, Pianiste.

NEW PROGRAMME.

Including the  
LATEST GRAND SUCCESSES FROM  
PARIS.

Operettes Chansonnées, &c.

Songs by the whole Company.

PRICES OF ADMISSION:  
RESERVED SEATS.....\$2  
STALLS.....\$1

Plan at ROBINSON PIANO CO.

Hongkong, 13th April, 1899.

PUBLIC AUCTION.

THE Undersigned has received instructions  
to Sell by  
PUBLIC AUCTION,

on

THURSDAY,  
the 20th April, 1899, at 8.30 P.M.,

No. 14, WYNNHAM STREET.

PLAIN-COVERED WALNUT DRAWING-ROOM SUITES, FRENCH MIRROR,  
TEAK OVERMANTELS, EBONY and  
TEAK WHATNOTS; WRITING DESKS,  
OIL-PAINTINGS, ENGRAVINGS, WHITE  
LACE CURTAINS and CARPETS, &c., &c.

TEAK and ROSEWOOD SIDEBOARDS,  
EXTENSION DINING TABLE, MOROCCO-COVERED ROSEWOOD—CHAIRS,  
DINER WAGGONS, CUTLERY, GLASS  
and CROCKERY-WARE, &c., &c.

Finely carved TEAK and WALNUT BED-  
STEADS, TEAK WARDROBES, with  
GLASS DOORS, TEAK and WALNUT  
DRESSING-TABLES and WASHSTANDS,  
FRENCH CUT GLASS, TOILET SET,  
BRONZE PLACQUES, and MARBLE  
BUSTS and GROUPS, &c., &c.

BATHROOM and PANTRY REQUISITES, &c., &c.

Also

A COTTAGE-PIANO, by Collard and Col-  
lard.

AND

A few pieces of CANTON BLACKWOOD-  
WARE.

On View from Tuesday, 18th April, 1899.

Catalogues will be issued.

TERMS OF SALE:—As customary.

G. P. LAMBERT,  
Auctioneer.

Hongkong, 13th April, 1899.

HOISTING THE FLAG AT TAIPU-HU.

ON MONDAY NEXT, weather permitting,  
the undersigned proposes to leave  
Pedder's Wharf at 4.30 a.m. sharp, to arrive at  
Taipu-hu, at Tsim Wan, about 11 A.M.

Breakfast on launch, Sandwiches, and Tiffin  
provided, with Beer, Whisky and Soda,  
Lemonade, etc., at Cost.

Confidants wishing to join this trip will please  
send in, their names together with \$1 for  
Expenses not later than, NOON SATURDAY.

No Chairs required.

R. C. HURLEY,

7, Pedder's Hill.

Hongkong, 13th April, 1899.

SOON

GREAT EASTERN AND CALEDONIAN  
GOLD MINING COMPANY,  
LIMITED.

ISSUE OF 70,000 PREFERENCE SHARES  
OF \$1 EACH, FULLY PAID.

NOTICE is hereby given that an issue of  
70,000 PREFERENCE SHARES of  
One Dollar each, of the above Company will  
be made on the 5th May, 1899, and that holders  
of Ordinary Shares on the Register on the 28th  
April, 1899, will be entitled to one Preference  
Share for each Ordinary Share held by them.

And NOTICE is also hereby given that the  
TRANSFER BOOKS of the Company will  
be CLOSED from 28th April to 5th May, in-  
clusive.

LÜTGENS, EINSTMANN & Co.,

Hongkong, 13th April, 1899.

NORTHERN PACIFIC STEAMSHIP  
COMPANY.

NOTICE TO CONSIGNEES.

STEAMSHIP "FAUSANG,"  
FROM PORTLAND, OR., & YOKOHAMA.

The above Steamer having arrived, Con-  
signees of Cargo are hereby requested to send  
in their Bills of Lading for countersignature  
and to take immediate delivery of their Goods  
from alongside.

Cargo impeding the discharge of the Vessel  
will be landed and stored at Consignees risk  
and expense.

DODWELL & Co., Ltd.

Agents.

Hongkong, 13th April, 1899.

## To-day's Advertisement.

VICTORIA CHAPTER,  
No. 525, E.C.

A REGULAR CONVOCATION OF VICTORIA  
CHAPTER will be held at the  
FREEMASONS' HALL, TONIGHT, the 13th  
instant, at 8.30 for 9 p.m. precisely. Visiting  
Companions are cordially invited to attend.

Hongkong, 13th April, 1899.

DOUGLAS STEAMSHIP COMPANY,  
LIMITED.

FOR AMOY AND TAMSUI,  
THE Company's Steamship

"FORMOSA,"

Captain Douglas, will be despatched for the  
above ports, TO-MORROW, the 14th instant,  
at Noon.

For Freight or Passage, apply to

DOUGLAS LAPRAIK & Co.,  
General Managers.

Hongkong, 13th April, 1899.

DOUGLAS STEAMSHIP COMPANY,  
LIMITED.

FOR SHANGHAI, NAGASAKI, KOBE  
AND YOKOHAMA.

THE Company's Steamship

"VORTIGERA,"

Captain Fairweather, will be despatched for the  
above ports, on SATURDAY, the 15th instant,  
at 4 P.M.

For Freight or Passage, apply to

SHEWAN, TOMES & Co.,  
Agents.

Hongkong, 13th April, 1899.

DOUGLAS STEAMSHIP COMPANY,  
LIMITED.

FOR SWATOW, AMOY & TAIWANFOO,

THE Company's Chartered Steamship

"NANYANG,"

Captain Lehmann, will be despatched for the  
above ports, on SUNDAY, the 16th instant,  
at Daylight.

For Freight or Passage, apply to

DOUGLAS LAPRAIK & Co.,  
General Managers.

Hongkong, 13th April, 1899.

DOUGLAS STEAMSHIP COMPANY,  
LIMITED.

FOR TIENTSIN (DIRECT),

THE Company's Steamship

"KASHING,"

Captain Hopkins, will be despatched as above  
on MONDAY, the 17th instant.

For Freight or Passage, apply to

BUTTERFIELD & SWIRE,  
Agents.

Hongkong, 13th April, 1899.

"MOGUL" LINE OF STEAMERS.

FOR SHANGHAI, KOBE & YOKOHAMA.

THE Steamship

"MACDUFF,"

Captain Glegg, will be despatched as above  
on FRIDAY, the 21st instant.

For Freight or Passage, apply to

DODWELL & CO., LIMITED.

Agents.

Hongkong, 13th April, 1899.

OCEAN STEAMSHIP COMPANY,  
FOR LONDON & MANILA AND  
SUEZ CANAL.

THE Company's Steamship

"SARPEDON,"

Captain Grier, will be despatched on MONDAY,  
the 8th May.

For Freight, apply to

BUTTERFIELD & SWIRE,  
Agents.

Hongkong, 13th April, 1899.

"BEN" LINE OF STEAMERS.

NOTICE TO CONSIGNEES.

STEAMSHIP "BENALDER,"

FROM ANTWERP, LONDON AND  
SINGAPORE.

CONSIGNEES of Cargo are hereby  
informed that all Goods are being landed  
at their risk into the Hongkong and Kowloon  
Wharf and Godown Company's Godowns  
whence and/or from the wharves delivery may  
be obtained.

No Claims will be admitted after the Goods  
have left the Godowns, and all Goods remaining  
undelivered after the 20th instant, will be  
subject to rent.

All Claims against the Steamer must be pre-  
sented to the Undersigned on or before the 27th  
instant, or they will not be recognized.

All broken, chafed, and damaged Goods are  
to be left in the Godowns, where they will be  
examined on the 18th instant, at 3 P.M.

No Fire Insurance has been effected.

Bills of Lading will be countersigned by

GIBB, LIVINGSTON & Co.,  
Agents.

Hongkong, 13th April, 1899.

NOTICE TO CONSIGNEES.

THE P. & O. S. N. Co.'s Steamship

"COROMELD,"

FROM BOMBAY, COLOMBO AND  
STRAITS.

Consignees of Cargo by the above-named  
Vessel are hereby informed that their Goods are  
being landed and placed at their risk in the  
Hongkong and Kowloon Wharf and Godown  
Company's Godowns at Kowloon, where each  
consignment will be sorted out by Mark and  
delivery can be obtained as soon as the  
Goods are landed.

This vessel brings on Cargo:

From London, ex S. Arcadia & Caledonian,

From Calcutta, ex S. Palman.

From Persian Gulf, ex S. Khandala.

Optional Cargo will be landed unless instruc-  
tions are given to the contrary before 9 A.M.

Goods not cleared by the 20th instant, at 4  
P.M. will be subject to rent.

No Fire Insurance will be effected by me in  
any case whatever.

All damaged Packages must be left in the  
Godowns and a certificate of the damage ob-  
tained from the Godown Company within ten  
days after the Vessel's arrival here, after which  
no Claims will be recognized.

H. A. RITCHIE,  
Superintendent.

Hongkong, 13th April, 1899.

## To-day's Advertisement.

CHURCH SERVICES IN KOWLOON.  
(FOR THE BENEFIT OF THOSE WHO MAY NOT  
BE ABLE TO ATTEND  
THE SERVICES IN HONGKONG.)

EVERY SUNDAY.

It cannot be denied that the sanitary condition of the three of four hundred new houses which have been erected during the year shows vast improvement upon that of the buildings which were erected prior to the passing of the latter Ordinance, but I regret to say that the law of this Colony still permits the erection of back to back houses, which are universally admitted to be unhealthy, and the prohibition of the further erection of which was so strongly urged by Mr. Osbert Chadwick, as far back as 1882; and by many others since that date. The provision of open spaces in the rear of buildings is an absolute necessity to render them suitable as human habitations, and yet the whole city of Victoria, with the exception of the Taiping Shan resumed area and the Praya Reclamation, might, under the existing laws, be rebuilt without a single backyard, area of open space attached to any house, and although the Architects do their best, I know, to persuade property owners to provide these open areas, yet it is not infrequently happens that a penurious landowner insists upon the whole of his land being covered by bricks and mortar, and a roof, to the great detriment, not only of his own, but also of his neighbour's property, and to the great injury to the health of all future occupants. The Model Bye-laws which were drawn up by the Local Government Board many years ago, and which have been very generally adopted by Sanitary Authorities at home, require a minimum open space, exclusively belonging to each house, of 150 square feet in area, and although I am quite willing to admit that there are special circumstances connected with the erection of domestic buildings for Chinese which would render this requirement excessive in some cases, yet there can be no doubt that legislation is urgently needed to secure some provision of this nature in respect of all houses that may be erected in the future.

The compulsory provision of open spaces in connection with existing dwellings is a somewhat different problem, but I have no hesitation in saying that most of the Chinese dwellings in the city of Victoria would, if they existed at home, be at once condemned as " unfit for human habitation" under the Housing of the Working Classes Act, and it is only necessary to quote the opening paragraph of the Report of the Insanitary Properties Commission, issued last year, to show how urgent is the necessity for some definite and prompt action on the part of the Government.

This paragraph reads—

"We regret to have to report that there are many insanitary properties in the colony and dwellings which, in their present condition, are unfit for human habitation. The back portions of a number of the houses visited by us are dark, ill-ventilated, extremely dirty and in some cases mere dens of filth. The interior of the cubicles or sub-divisions of the living rooms was such that in the great majority of cases their contents could be seen only by the aid of an artificial light."

It is hardly necessary to argue that if the dweling rooms occupied by Chinese of the coolie class, in fact, it is impossible for any staff of Inspectors to ensure their being kept in a cleanly condition, and although the present state of the dwellings in the city compares most favourably with that which obtained only some four or five years ago, yet it is indeed an almost hopeless task to seek for cleanliness with a bull's eye lantern in the almost Chinaman darkness of the typical Chinese tenement-dwelling.

There is still most urgent necessity throughout the colony; and especially in the city of Victoria, for many additional free public latrines and urinals; provision was, I believe, made for the erection of two additional latrines in the city during the ensuing year; these would not, however, have sufficed even to keep pace with the rapid increase in the population, so that the city would have been no better off than heretofore, but unfortunately the expenditure upon these has been disallowed, so that the condition of the city in this respect is rapidly becoming worse.

No provision, whatever has been made, for the erection of additional urinals, either for Europeans or for Chinese, although only three public urinals at present exist in the city for a male population of about 125,000. Many are the complaints of the offensive smell of urine, in the public and back lanes, and from the urine traps in the streets throughout the city, but so long as no provision is made, in this respect, for the thousands of coolies who daily traverse these streets, I fail to see what other result can be expected, or in what way this undoubted nuisance can be prevented.

BIRTHS.

The births registered during the year were as follows:—

	Males.	Females.
Chinese	592	371
Non-Chinese (White)	100	78
Non-Chinese (Coloured)	40	25
<b>Total</b>	<b>630</b>	<b>474</b>

This is equal to a general birth-rate of 4.7 per 1,000 as compared with 5.5 per 1,000 during the previous year. The birth-rate among the Non-Chinese community alone was 1.6 per 1,000 as compared with 1.7 during the previous year, so that it is apparent that the year 1898 was not favourable to any great increase of the population from this cause. The nationalities of the Non-Chinese parents were as follows:—British 86, Portuguese 72, German 11, French 4, Spanish 1, American 1, Pole 1, Jew 3, Indian 38, Malay 5, Japanese 2. The most remarkable feature, however, about the birthrate of this colony is the great preponderance of male over female births; in Great Britain and in temperate climates generally the proportion is 101 male births to every 100 female births, but in this Colony the proportion is, among the white races, no less than 128 male births to 100 female births.

The number of Chinese births registered does not, however, give an accurate record of the number of births which have occurred in the colony, for many of the infants that die during the first month or so of life remain unregistered, although their deaths must be registered to obtain the necessary burial orders. It is customary therefore to add to the registered births the number of infants of one month old and under that die in the various convents or are found by Police in the streets or in the Harbour. The total number during 1898 was 214 males and 317 females and 11 sex unrecorded, and thus the total births among the Chinese are estimated at 1,665, which makes the Chinese birth-rate 6.3 per 1,000, and the general birth-rate of the colony 6.8 per 1,000 as compared with 7.3 during the previous year.

The preponderance of male births over female births is not nearly so marked among the Chinese as among the white inhabitants, but yet the ratio stands at 1.17 to 1.00, which is greatly in excess of what obtains in Europe.

#### DEATHS.

The total number of deaths registered during the year was 5,674, as compared with 4,688 during 1897 and 3,860 during 1896. The death-rate for 1898 was therefore 22.3 per 1,000 as compared with 18.8 during the previous year, and an average of 23.1 per 1,000 during the preceding five years (exclusive of 1894). These deaths, however, include no less than 1,174 from Bubonic Fever (Plague), and if these are omitted the death-rate appears at 7.7 per 1,000. The total number of deaths among the Chinese was 3,577, which is equal to a death-rate of 21.5 per 1,000.

The deaths registered among the Non-Chinese community were 291, of which 200 were among the white races and 91 among the coloured. The death-rate among Non-Chinese include 49 deaths from Bubonic Fever, and the total death-rate among the white races was 16.2 per 1,000, and among the coloured races was 33.6 per 1,000.

#### DISTRIBUTION OF DEATHS.

The 291 deaths among the Non-Chinese population were distributed as follows:—British 17, Portuguese 59, German 10, Spanish 5, French 5, Italian 2, Norwegian 1, Austrian 1, Indian 62, Japanese 13, Malay 9, South American (coloured) 6, Siamese 1.

The number of deaths occurring in the Army was 32 of which 23 were British, the remainder being Indians. The average age at death of the British soldier was 23.6 years, and the causes of death were as follows:—

BRITISH SOLDIERS.	
Repitent Fever	11
Intermittent Fever	1
Enteric Fever	2
Bubonic Fever (Plague)	1
Acute Rheumatism	1
Hepatic Abscess	1
Concussion of Brain	1
<b>WIVES AND CHILDREN.</b>	
Dysentery	1
Diarrhoea	1
Convulsions	2
Debility	
<b>INDIAN.</b>	
Soldiers	
Bubonic Fever (Plague)	2
Arsenic Poisoning	
<b>WIVES AND CHILDREN.</b>	
Phthisis	2
Remittent Fever	2
Premature Birth	1
Hydrocephalus	1

This shows a loss of something over 7 per 1,000 per annum among British troops from Malarial diseases alone—sufficiently high death-rate to warrant active measures of protection on the part of the military authorities. The pure white civilian population of the colony (i.e., not including the locally born Portuguese) numbers nearly double that of the British troops and yet only three deaths from Malarial diseases occurred among them during the year, two being old men, aged 67 and 70 respectively, and the third, a lad of nine years. The three deaths from Bubonic Fever were not incurred in the execution of Plague duty, but must have been contracted by the men in some of the Chinese houses of entertainment. Eleven deaths occurring in the China Squatton were registered in this colony during the year; the average age at death was 30.

#### UNCERTIFIED DEATHS.

During the year there were 611 deaths of Chinese who were not attended by a medical man, and in every case the relatives of the deceased were interviewed by one of the Inspectors of Nuisances, and, in all cases of doubt, by myself also. In this manner we were enabled to discover 37 deaths from Bubonic Fever (Plague), and 2 deaths from Small-pox which would otherwise have been recorded as due to some less alarming maladies. I am still of the opinion, moreover, that there is great scope in this direction for one or more Chinese doctors, well-trained in Western medicine, who should be attached to the Sanitary Staff, and who would prove most valuable allies in encouraging their countrymen to observe the elementary principles of sanitation, and in detecting the commencement of any outbreaks of infectious disease. Many of the hygienic crimes committed by the Chinese in this colony are unquestionably due rather to ignorance than to wilfulness, and the intelligent propagation of our laws by men of their own nationality would, I feel sure, go far towards ameliorating these conditions which at present tend so largely to the discomfort of European colonists and to the detriment of the health of the Chinese themselves.

#### INFECTIOUS DISEASES.

The total number of cases of infectious diseases reported by registered medical practitioners during the year was 1,591 and comprised the following:—

DIPTHERIA.

Five cases of Diphtheria were reported during the year, all compared with two during the previous year, and no less than four of these cases died. Two of the cases were Europeans, one of them being imported, and the other three were Chinese, two female children, and one adult male.

#### PULPITRAL FEVER.

Six cases of Puerperal Fever were notified during the year of which one only was a European, and the remaining five Chinese. Ten deaths from this disease were, however, registered, all being Chinese, while thirty-four deaths among Chinese were also registered as due to child-birth; and some of these also no doubt were really deaths from septic absorption.

In view of the fact that the registered births among the Chinese number only 633, (the estimated births being 1,052), these 44 deaths represent a very high death-rate among young Chinese parturient women, and there appears to me to be a very great need for some Maternal Charity among the Chinese, preferably in connection with the Tung Wah Hospital and under similar management.

#### SCARLET FEVER.

Four cases of Scarlet Fever were reported during the year, two on board H.M.S. *Bartlett*, and two on board H.M.S. *Petrel*. The infection appears to have been brought out from England, as this disease is practically unknown here, and does not appear to have any tendency to spread among the Chinese.

#### CHOLERA.

Five cases of Cholera among Chinese were imported by the S.S. *Orissa*, from Bangkok in the month of April, and two of them died.

#### TURNED UP.

It is quite refreshing after the number of blood-curdling and tear-extracting drama that have been represented at the Theatre Royal, to at last have the pleasure of a good laugh without once being called upon to work up our sentiments by having some dreadful and awful murder suddenly spring on us. We are pleased to say "Turned up" has not a single murder, though it has a "Caraway Bones" an undertaker, but is what it is advertised as being, a funny farcical comedy, the fun being maintained right up to the fall of the curtain.

#### MR. GEORGE MEDWAY.

Mr. George Medway (Mr. Kenyon Musgrave) is madly in love with Ada Baltic (Miss Fanny Stanley) and is robbing his fate, at the non-arrival of his mother, who George's future father-in-law, General Baltic (Mr. J. B. Ferrell), especially wishes to see to make arrangements for his daughter's marriage before his own departure on foreign service. When Mrs. Medway (Miss Rosina Blaik) does arrive, she informs her children, George and Sabina (Miss Barbara Fenn), that she was married that very day to an undertaker, Mr. Caraway Bones (Mr. Henry Dallas). The newly-made Mrs. Bones faints when she hears that her husband, Mr. Bones, had arrived at the house only to be forcibly ejected and ducked in the river for his astonishing effrontery. In the next act George Medway (Mr. H. H. Stephenson), who was supposed to have been lost in H.M.S. *Petrel*, arrives and on understanding from George Jun. that Mrs. Medway is dead, informs his children that while in Brazil he had married a black woman and that she had followed him to England. Now the unravelling of the Gordian knot is where the fun comes in. The black Mrs. Medway (Miss Madge Grey) being pained of from infectious disease may land in the colony, with impunity, provided that they are unaware of her to admit that they are aware of the infectious nature of the disease from which they are suffering. For small steamers, and

others, that carry a Surgeon, the present regulations may not doubt be admirable, but as it is the vessels which do not carry Surgeons, and especially the native craft that are most likely to foist cases of infectious disease upon the colony, I must adhere to my previously expressed opinion that we have only ourselves to blame when grave epidemics are originated, as unquestionably they are in many instances, by the unrecognized importation of the initial cases.

#### BUBONIC FEVER.

A serious epidemic of this disease occurred during the spring of the year, no less than 1,320 cases being reported of which 1,175 died, which is equal to a mortality of 88.1 per cent. As this outbreak has formed the subject of a special report which was presented to the Board by me in August of last year, it will be unnecessary to enter here into any further details.

#### NOT ANDA.

#### CALENDAR.

APRIL.

Meteorological means based on ten years' observations to 1893.

Barometer ..... 29.958

Thermometer ..... 69.7

Humidity ..... 86.0

Rainfall ..... 7.58

TO-DAY.

WEATHER REPORT.

On date at On date at

Barometer ..... 30.00 29.91

Thermometer ..... 75 74

Humidity ..... 80 82

Rainfall ..... —

TO-DAY.

Thursday, 13th April, 1890.

Chinese—4th of 3rd moon of 25th year of

Kuang-shu.

Sun-Rises ..... 6hr. 6min.

Sets ..... 5hr. 55min.

High water—Morning ..... 6hr. 6min.

Afternoon ..... 7hr. 55min.

Low water—Morning ..... 6hr. 10min.

Afternoon ..... 7hr. 10min.

ANNIVERSARIES.

1829—Roman Catholic Relief Bill passed.

1838—A native opium smuggler executed under the wall of Macao as a warning to foreigners.

1854—Arrival of Governor Sir John Bowring.

1860—Commencement of the American Civil War.

1865—Presentation of colours to the Hongkong Regiment.

1897—The Hangchow Mint commenced to coin cash.

TO-MORROW.

Friday, 14th April, 1890.

Chinese—5th of 3rd moon of 25th year of

Kuang-shu.

Sun-Rises ..... 6hr. 6min.

Sets ..... 5hr. 55min.

High water—Morning ..... 6hr. 6min.

Afternoon ..... 7hr. 5min.

Low water—Morning ..... 6hr. 10min.

Afternoon ..... 7hr. 10min.

ANNIVERSARIES.

1842—Yih-shang, Lung-ien, and Ki-ying arrived at Canton to command the Chinese troops.

1857—Princess Beatrice born.

1865—Assassination of President Lincoln.

1878—Loss of the s.s. *Huntington*.

1896—Armed gang robbery at Wanchai.

1897—Suicide of Mr. Geo. Hubbard.

SHIPPING AND MAIL NEWS.

MAILS DUE.

Indian (Lightning) to

